

DRAFT

Minutes of the 30th annual general meeting of members of the Academia Europaea, held at the Institut d'Estudis Catalans. November 28th, 2018 at 15:00

Present: The President and 91 members

The President, Professor Dr. Cloetingh welcomed members to Barcelona and thanked the local organisers (Professors Ricard Guerrero (Hub Academic Director), Genoveva Marti, Alex Fidora and Ms Kimberley Katte) for the hospitality.

1. The draft agenda [as previously published on the AE website], Papers had been made available in advance, on the website and were tabled for delegates in the room. No motions or resolutions from the membership had been notified in advance, as described in the notice for the AGM. **The motion to approve the agenda was adopted.**

The President then moved to part one of the agenda.

2. The minutes of the Annual Meeting of 2017 (Budapest), were approved without amendment and signed by the President.

3. Questions to the Trustees

No questions were put. No comments were received.

4. Transactions of Ordinary Business: Elections and appointments.

4.1 Election of a Vice-president

The President summarised the process that had been followed. He explained that with the prior consent of other candidates the Board had decided to present a single candidate. Professor Marti gave a short statement in support of her candidacy. Questions and comments were invited. Professor Marti left the room. There were questions and comments from the floor. Former President Lars Walløe expressed his disappointment at the process adopted and wanted the Board to adopt either postal and or electronic ballots of all declared candidates in future elections. Ralph Wijers expressed sympathy with that view, and asked that more effort be made to improve the gender balance of the AE and of the Board in future. Professor Van der Meer also ask that the upcoming search and election of a new President would be fully transparent. The President noted the comment. The President then moved the motion that, "The Board of trustees recommend that the AGM do elect Professor Genoveva Marti as a Vice President". **There were no declared objections and the motion was adopted.** Professor Marti re-entered the room to acclamation.

4.2 Election of an Honorary Treasurer

The President stated that there were two declared candidates. Each was given the floor and made a statement in support of their candidature. The President then invited members to vote on the ballot papers provided and to post the ballots in the box provided. The votes were counted by the Executive Secretary and verified by a member of the Graz Hub staff. The President declared the result at the end of the AGM. **Professor V. Milutinovic was duly elected as Honorary Treasurer for a period of three years.**

5. Reports

5.1 The President tabled the 2017 consolidated activity (Trustees) report. Significant highlights were mentioned, including discussions to establish a new Regional Knowledge Hub in Tbilisi, Georgia and discussions on a hub in Munich. The President announced a new scientific prize – the HYPATIA prize for scientific achievement, which would be sponsored by the City of Barcelona in collaboration with the Academia Europaea and the Knowledge Hub. The President described his and other Board member's participation in the ERC Widening European Participation policy programme over the year and that an increase number of member initiated activities has received support through the AE Curien Fund for small grants. The President encouraged AE members to nominate younger scholars for election to the Young Academy of Europe and the sudden death of the founding chair of the YAE – Andre Mischke was noted with sadness. On a bright note, Prof. Nicole Grobert a former YAE chair had been appointed to the Group of Chief Scientific Advisers to the European Commission.

The President moved the resolution to adopt the 2017 activity report. There were no objections and **the report was adopted.**

Finally, the President thanked the staffs of the Cardiff, Wroclaw, Barcelona and Bergen Hubs for their considerable efforts in 2017 and Ms Teresa McGovern at the London HQ office for her administrative support. The Graz information centre team (of Dana Kaiser and Helmut Leitner and Robert Hoffmann) were also thanked.

The President moved the resolution to adopt the 2017 Trustees report. There were no objections and **the report was adopted.**

5.2 The Treasurer

5.2.1 Annual Financial Statement for 2017. Prof. Petersen reported on the audited accounts for the financial year ended 31 December 2017. The audited accounts had been published in advance of the AGM and were tabled for members attending. The Treasurer pointed out the improved financial situation compared to 2016 and that 2017 showed an equilibrium situation due in large measure to increased member contributions and some additional overhead recovered from the SAPEA project activity. It was again pointed out that member contributions were now the most important source of unrestricted income for the AE.

The Treasurer then moved the motion to adopt the 2017 accounts. There were no objections and **the President declared the accounts adopted.**

5.2.2 The Treasurer moved the resolution to re-appoint Keith Vaudrey and Co Ltd as auditors. **The resolution was adopted.**

5.2.3 Treasurer moved the resolution to set the recommended member donation for 2019 as follows:

Members up to and including 65 years of age - 150 Euros

Members 66 – 75 years of age - 95 Euros

Foreign members - 95 Euros

Members over 75 voluntary donations of any amount.

The AGM approved the recommended figures and **the resolution was adopted without dissent.**

5.3 Other reports

5.3.1 The President invited professor Petersen (Cardiff Hub Director and alternate AE representative on the SAPEA Board) to report on the SAPEA project for policy advice to the Science Advisory mechanism of the European Commission. There were no questions from the floor

5.3.2. The President invited those Regional Knowledge Hub staff present to make short presentations on their activities in the past year and looking forwards.

Barcelona: Professor Guerrero updated the AGM on plans for 2018

Bergen: The new Academic Director Professor Eystein Janssen reported on plans for 2018/19.

Wroclaw: Ms Majkowska (Hub administrator) outlined activity for 2017 and plans for 2018.

Cardiff: Prof Petersen reported on activity organised by the Hub and also on the 30th anniversary event held courtesy of the Royal Society in London in September. A colour brochure was available to members.

Graz: Dr Leitner (data centre manager) outlined the work of the Data centre during 2017.

The President thanked members for their attendance and Andreu Mas-Colell for his long-time support for a Hub in Barcelona. The 30th AGM was declared closed at 16:00

Minutes signed at Leuven on 05 November 2019

Sierd Cloetingh, President